

*Mr. P. N. Madhavan's Case.*

182. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): (a) Are the Government aware that Mr. P. N. Madhavan, a vakil of the District Court of Trivandrum, who went to present an appeal to the Dewan Peishkar of Trivandrum, was asked to go out by the Peishkar?

(b) Have the Government received the resolutions passed at a public meeting held in the local L. M. S. Hall to protest against this action of the Dewan Peishkar?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any action in the matter?

(d) If not, will the Government be pleased to state what action, if any, they propose to take?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Peishkar has been informed that, on occasions of his inability to attend his office in the usual course, he should leave instructions at his office that parties and vakils should transact business, if any, with his assistant, as he is himself not available.

(d) The question does not arise, in view of the answer to part (c).

*Authority of District Magistrate to prohibit Entry of Certain*

*Classes into the Fort.*

183. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): (a) Was not the District Magistrate and Dewan Peishkar of Trivandrum holding his court, as usual, within the Fort after the commencement of the Murajapam ceremony?

(b) Was he authorised by the Government to prohibit from entering his court any party of any caste or creed who might attend that court for the lawful transaction of any business?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to say whether any provisions of the Limitation Regulation, Criminal Procedure Code or Rules passed by the High Court, under the authority vested in them by law, have been abrogated for the time being for the convenience of the said officer?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) The District Magistrate of Trivandrum was not holding his court anywhere during the first week of Murajapam. Information has been called for as to whether he was holding his court, and, if so, where, during the subsequent weeks.

(b) No.

(c) No.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I know how the duties of the District Magistrate were performed during the first week of Murajapam?

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He was not holding any court during Murajapam.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): I do not refer to court.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He might have been doing his work as District Magistrate elsewhere.

*Mr. P. N. Madhavan's Case.*

184. MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): (a) Are the Government aware that Mr. P. N. Madhavan, B. A., B. L., who appeared as a pleader before the Dewan Peishkar, Trivandrum, on the 7th Vrischikam, 1099, for presenting an appeal petition which was about to become time-barred, was not permitted to "act and plead" for his client and was ordered to leave the court immediately?

(b) Have not the Government received copies of proceedings of public meetings held at various places, protesting against this conduct of the District Magistrate of Trivandrum?

(c) In view of the violation of the civic rights of a citizen, and in view of the public protest entered in respect of this matter, will the Government be pleased to institute an enquiry into the conduct of the officer concerned?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) Mr. P. N. Madhavan, who went to the Utsava Madam building to see the Dewan Peishkar who was there on Murajapam duty, was requested to leave the place. The Dewan Peishkar was not holding court then.

(b) Government have received resolutions passed at some meetings.

(c) The question does not arise in the light of the answer to part (a).

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): May I know for what purpose Mr. Madhavan went and saw the District Magistrate that day?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the question itself—for presenting an appeal petition.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): If that is so, was he directed by the District Magistrate to go to some other officer to seek his remedy?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, he was not directed.

MR. N. KUMARAN (*Nominated*): If he was not directed like that, how was he to obtain his redress?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): He would have to go to the Division Assistant's office or to the Tahsildar's office.